

## **Rocky Flats**

### **Possible Worker Exposures**

Workers may have been exposed to beryllium, plutonium, uranium and americium, as well as various solvents and chemicals, during the production of nuclear weapons. Possible exposures to these materials continued even after 1989, when workers began focusing on cleanup, waste management and decontamination and decommissioning activities. Records on what workers were exposed to at any given time may be incomplete.

### **Public Meeting on Worker Health and Benefits**

A public meeting with Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environment, Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels was held on December 15, 1999, in Arvada, Colorado. A transcript from the meeting attended by about 275 is available at <http://www.eh.doe.gov/benefits/meetings/meetings.html>.

### **Important Contact Information**

U.S. Department of Energy Workers' Compensation Helpline (toll-free): **877-447-9756**

U.S. Department of Energy Benefits Website: <http://www.eh.doe.gov/benefits>

### **Site Background**

Beginning in the early 1950s, the Department of Energy's Rocky Flats facility made parts for weapons using various radioactive and hazardous materials, including plutonium and beryllium. This continued until 1989. The production of nuclear weapons left behind a legacy of surplus plutonium, nuclear waste and contaminated facilities, soil and groundwater that must now be safely cleaned up. Today, the site's mission is to close the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site by 2006.

Management and Integrating Contractor: Kaiser Hill Company, LLC.  
Number of current contractor employees: 3,185 (estimated)  
Historical number of contractor employees: 13,000 (estimated)